(d) if so, the justification thereof; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that most of the medicines purchased was through local suppliers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Research Projects at AIIMS

23. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of research projects at All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi are held up for want of animals to conduct experiments;

(b) if so, since when these projects are at a standstill;

(c) whether any talks with those opposing animal experimentation have been held to break the impasse, and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) A large number of research projects at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) were held up or delayed due to the objections raised by the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) or its nominee in the Institutional Animals Ethics Committee (IAEC). Annexure detailing a list of such projects is enclosed *[See* Appendix 196 Annexure No. 4], CPCSEA nominee has very recently cleared 43 projects involving small animals, Six projects involving larger animals are pending with CPCSEA for clearance for periods ranging between 1 to 2 years.

All the issues relating to role of CPCSEA on Medical research and amendments to rules, procedures etc, that may be needed, has been taken up with Committee of Secretaries.

Interference of Animal Rights Activists in Bio-Medical Research Work

24.SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:
DR ALADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether over-enthusiasm of Animal Rights Activists in interfering in Bio-Medical Research Work;

(b) whether it is a fact that National Institute of Virology, Pune was closed on that account;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons of its closure; and

(d) the action taken to ensure that all Bio-Medical Research Work to save mankind is not hampered due to such frivolous grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. It is also a fact that leading institution conducting experiments on animals are facing difficulties because of various provisions of Breeding of and Experiments on Animals (Control and Supervision) Rules, 1998 prepared by Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) and the manner in which various decisions of CPCSEA are implemented.

It is not true that the National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune was closed. However, on 16th May, 2002 a large number of animal activitists entered the premises of NIV, Pune and seized the animals which were already in the process ofre-habilitation.

All the issues relating to the role of CPCSEA on medical research and amendments to rules, procedures etc, that may be needed, have been taken up with Committee of Secretaries.

Dental X-ray machine in Kasturba Nagar CGHS dispensary

25. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a dental X-ray machine was procured for use in Kasturba. Nagar/Sewa Nagar, CGHS dispensary in 1998 at a substantial cost;

(b) if so, whether the machine is lying idle since then for want of necessary equipment/facilities, etc.;

(c) if so, the persons responsible for this sorry state of affairs and action contemplated against them for misuse of public money;

(d) the reasons for not arranging necessary equipment/facilities etc. before procurement of the machine; and

(e) by when the X-ray machine will be operational and action initiated in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) A dental X-ray machine was procured in 1995.